Newington-Dover EIS
NH 16 / US 4 / Spaulding Turnpike
NHS-027-1(37), 11238

WELCOME

Scoping Meeting

Newington Town Hall

June 25, 2003

Meeting Agenda

- Introduction & Meeting Purpose
- Federal Lead Agency & Cooperating Agencies Roles
- Project Background
- Project Purpose & Need
- Study Area
- Sensitive Environmental Issues
- Reasonable Range of Alternatives
- Project Phases & Schedule
- Open Discussion

Purpose of Scoping Meeting

- Confirm the Project Study Area
- Discuss the Study Framework & Potential Impacts that Warrant Study
- Define a Reasonable Range of Alternatives
- Get Your Input

Federal Highway Administration's Role

- Federal Lead Agency
  - Federal Aid project
  - Oversight Responsibility
  - Environmental Impact Statement

FHWA Oversight

- Lead Federal Agency for EIS Preparation
  - NEPA (Concern for all impacts – social, economic, environmental)
- Historic Resources Eligible for NR
  - Section 4(f) of the USDOT Act
  - Section 106 of the NHP Act
- Public Parks, Recreational Areas, & Wildlife/Waterfowl Refuges
  - Section 4(f) of the USDOT Act

FHWA Oversight (con't)

- Wetlands
  - Executive Order 11990 "Protection of Wetlands"
- Navigable Waterways
  - US Coast Guard Permit
- Other Federally Regulated Resources
  - Floodplains
  - Air Quality
  - Farmlands

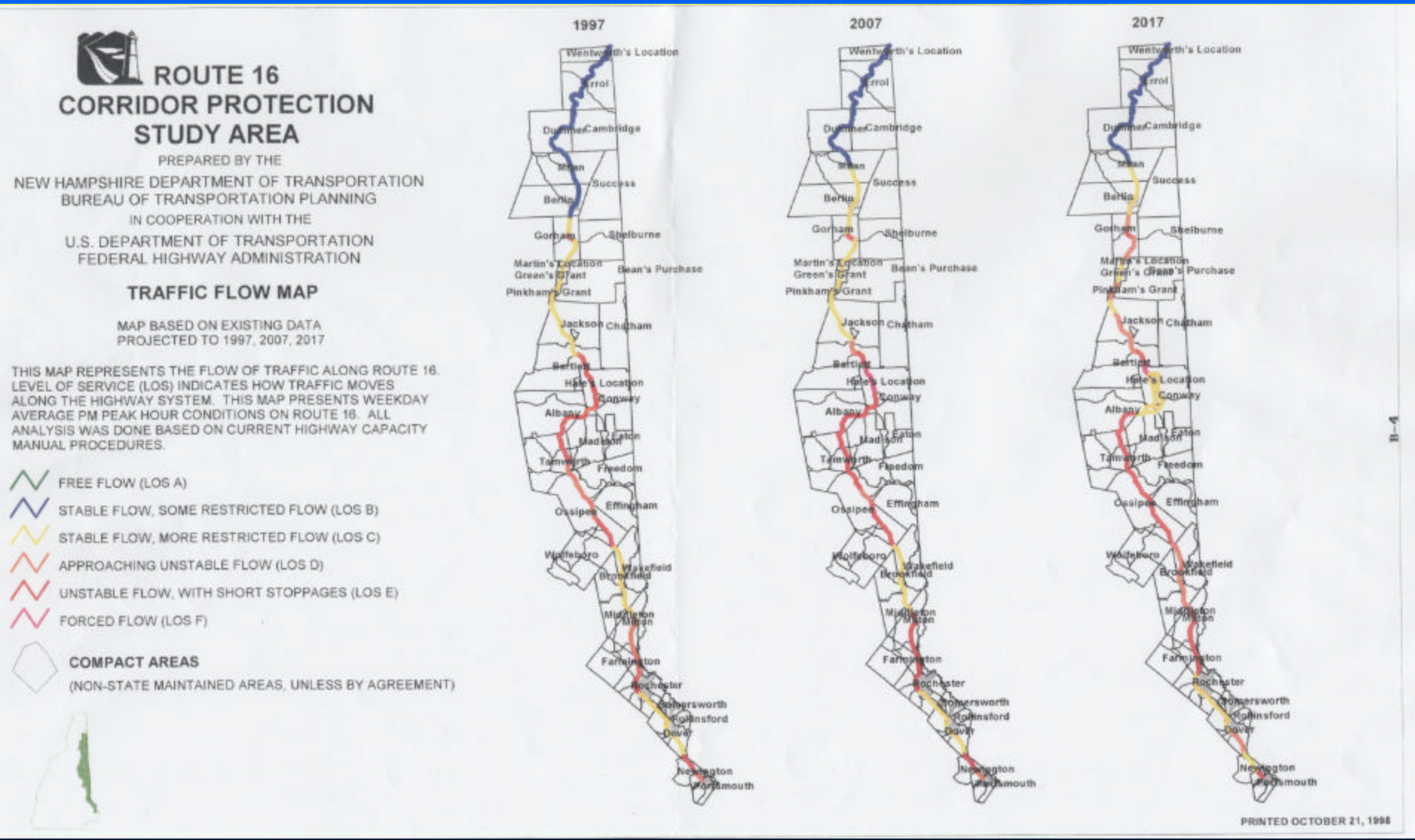
Cooperating Agencies

- US Army Corps of Engineers
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- US Fish & Wildlife Service
- US Coast Guard
- National Marine Fisheries Service
- NH Office of State Planning
- NH Fish & Game Department
- NH Division of Historical Resources
- NH Department of Environmental Services

Project Background

- NH 16 Corridor Management Plan (1998)
- Feasibility Study (2000)
- Issues and Opportunities

NH 16 Corridor Map



Exit 3

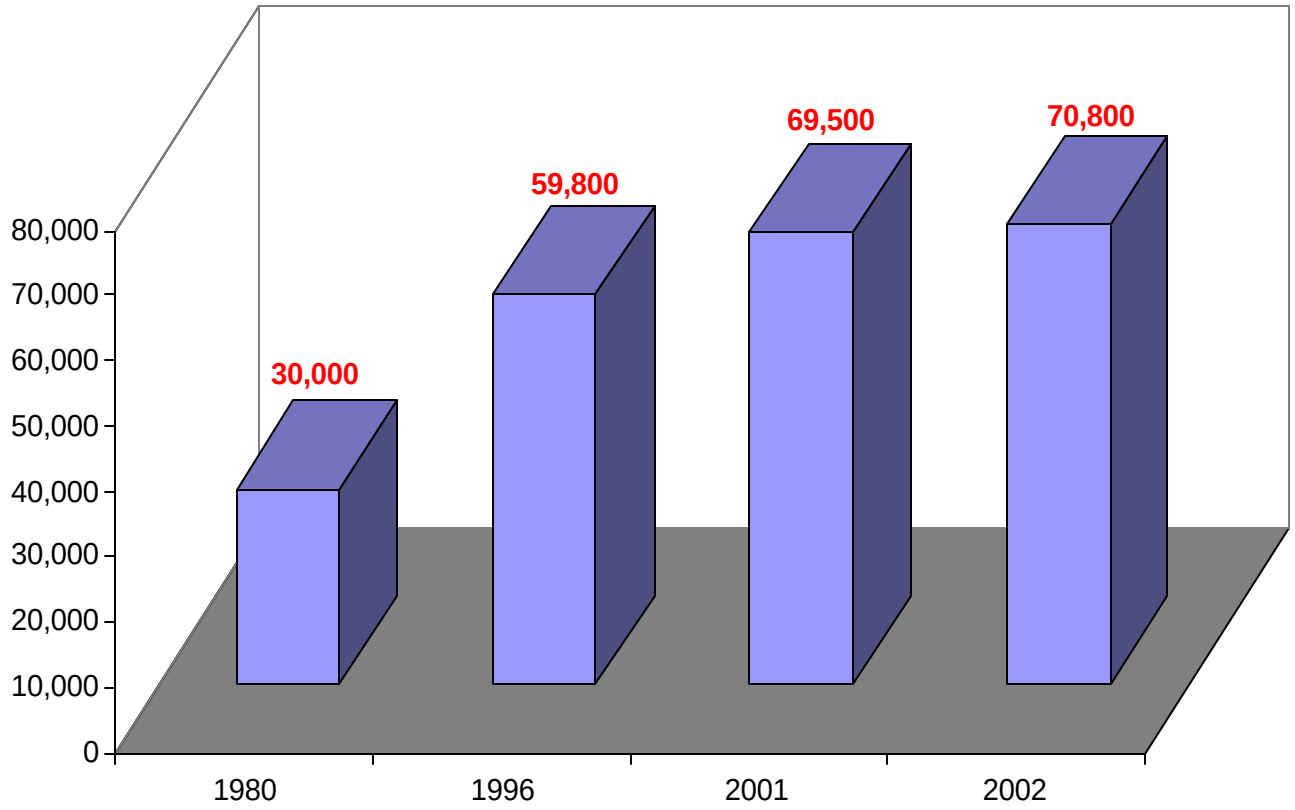
Exit 4N

Exit 4, Nimble Hill Road

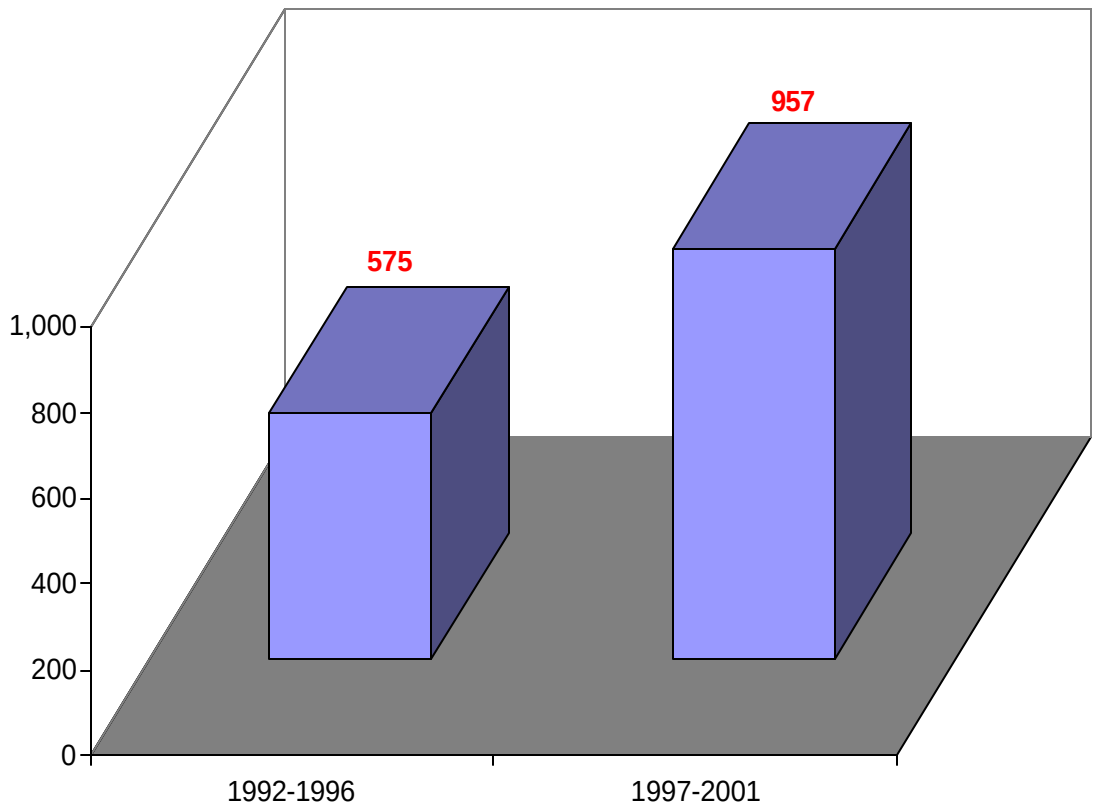
Hilton Park

Exit 6

Little Bay Bridges
Average Daily Traffic Volumes



Number of Reported Study Area Accidents



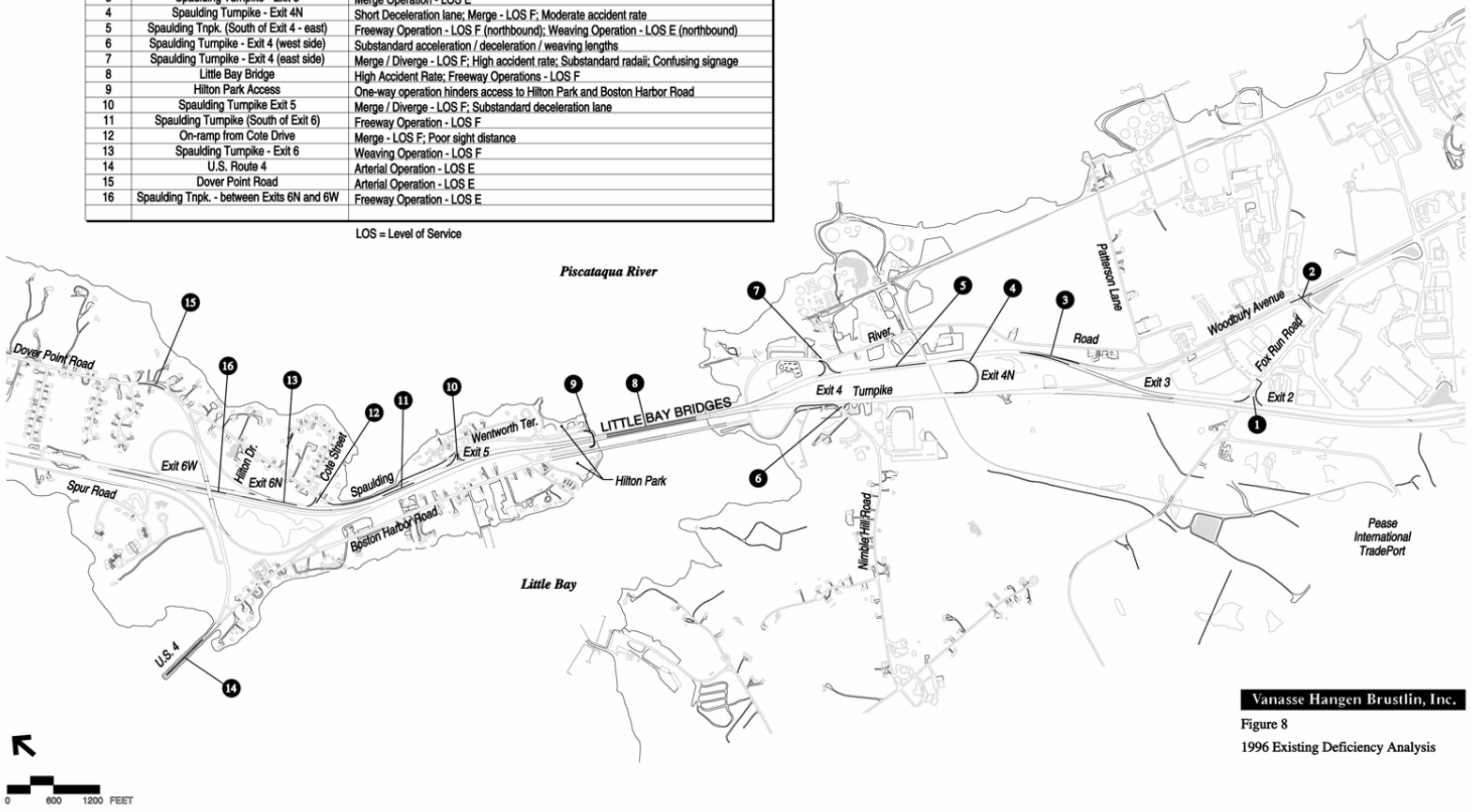
1996 Deficiencies

50617DFX

1996 Existing Deficiency Analysis

Area No.	Description	Deficiency Remarks
1	Spaulding Turnpike - Exit 2	Substandard curve radaii; Short acceleration lane; Nearby unsignalized intersection at HQ
2	Woodbury Ave. at Fox Run Road	High Accident Rate
3	Spaulding Turnpike - Exit 3	Merge Operation - LOS E
4	Spaulding Turnpike - Exit 4N	Short Deceleration lane; Merge - LOS F; Moderate accident rate
5	Spaulding Tnpk. (South of Exit 4 - east)	Freeway Operation - LOS F (northbound); Weaving Operation - LOS E (northbound)
6	Spaulding Turnpike - Exit 4 (west side)	Substandard acceleration / deceleration / weaving lengths
7	Spaulding Turnpike - Exit 4 (east side)	Merge / Diverge - LOS F; High accident rate; Substandard radaii; Confusing signage
8	Little Bay Bridge	High Accident Rate; Freeway Operations - LOS F
9	Hilton Park Access	One-way operation hinders access to Hilton Park and Boston Harbor Road
10	Spaulding Turnpike Exit 5	Merge / Diverge - LOS F; Substandard deceleration lane
11	Spaulding Turnpike (South of Exit 6)	Freeway Operation - LOS F
12	On-ramp from Cote Drive	Merge - LOS F; Poor sight distance
13	Spaulding Turnpike - Exit 6	Weaving Operation - LOS F
14	U.S. Route 4	Arterial Operation - LOS E
15	Dover Point Road	Arterial Operation - LOS E
16	Spaulding Tnpk. - between Exits 6N and 6W	Freeway Operation - LOS E

LOS = Level of Service



Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.

Figure 8

1996 Existing Deficiency Analysis

2003 6 10

2003 6 10
8:37 AM

2003 6 10
8:37 AM

2003 6 10
8:45 AM

2003 6 10
8:45 AM

2003 6 10
8:45 AM

16 4:49 PM

16 4:43 PM

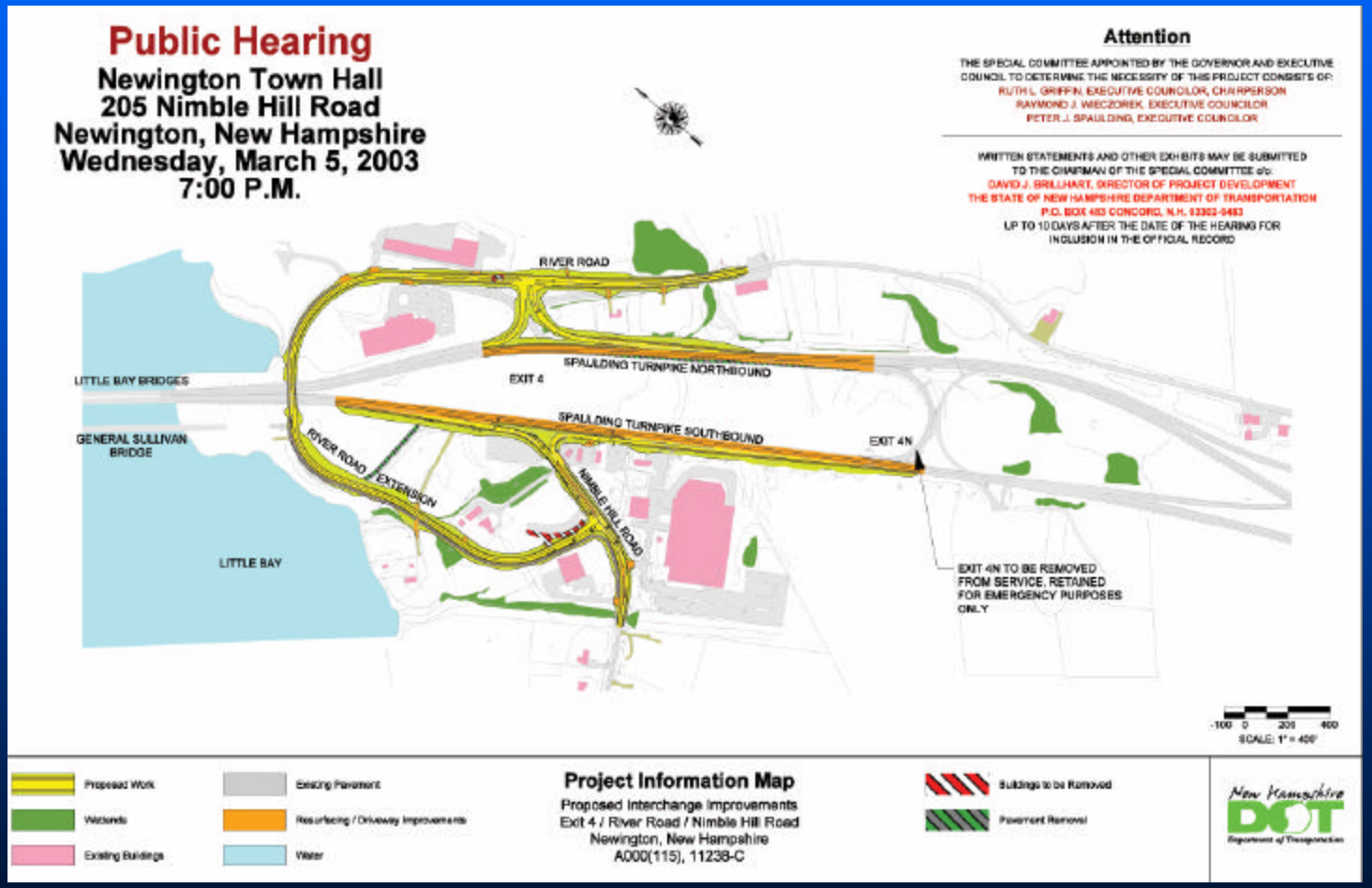
16 4:44 PM

16 4:43PM

16 4:45PM

16 4:50 PM

Interim Safety Plan


Public Hearing
Newington Town Hall
205 Nimble Hill Road
Newington, New Hampshire
Wednesday, March 5, 2003
7:00 P.M.
Attention
THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO DETERMINE THE NECESSITY OF THIS PROJECT CONSISTS OF:
RUTH L. GRIFFIN, EXECUTIVE COUNCILOR, CHAIRPERSON
RAYMOND J. WIECZOREK, EXECUTIVE COUNCILOR
PETER J. SPAULDING, EXECUTIVE COUNCILOR
WRITTEN STATEMENTS AND OTHER EXHIBITS MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE c/o:
DAVID J. BRILLHART, DIRECTOR OF PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
P.O. BOX 483 CONCORD, N.H. 03302-0483
UP TO 10 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE HEARING FOR INCLUSION IN THE OFFICIAL RECORD
RIVER ROAD
SPAULDING TURNPIKE NORTHBOUND
EXIT 4
LITTLE BAY BRIDGES
SPAULDING TURNPIKE SOUTHBOUND
EXIT 4N
GENERAL SULLIVAN BRIDGE
RIVER ROAD EXTENSION
NIMBLE HILL ROAD
LITTLE BAY
EXIT 4N TO BE REMOVED FROM SERVICE. RETAINED FOR EMERGENCY PURPOSES ONLY
-100 0 200 400
SCALE: 1" = 400'
Proposed Work
Wetlands
Existing Buildings
Existing Pavement
Resurfacing / Driveway Improvements
Water
Project Information Map
Proposed Interchange Improvements
Exit 4 / River Road / Nimble Hill Road
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Buildings to be Removed
Pavement Removal
New Hampshire DOT
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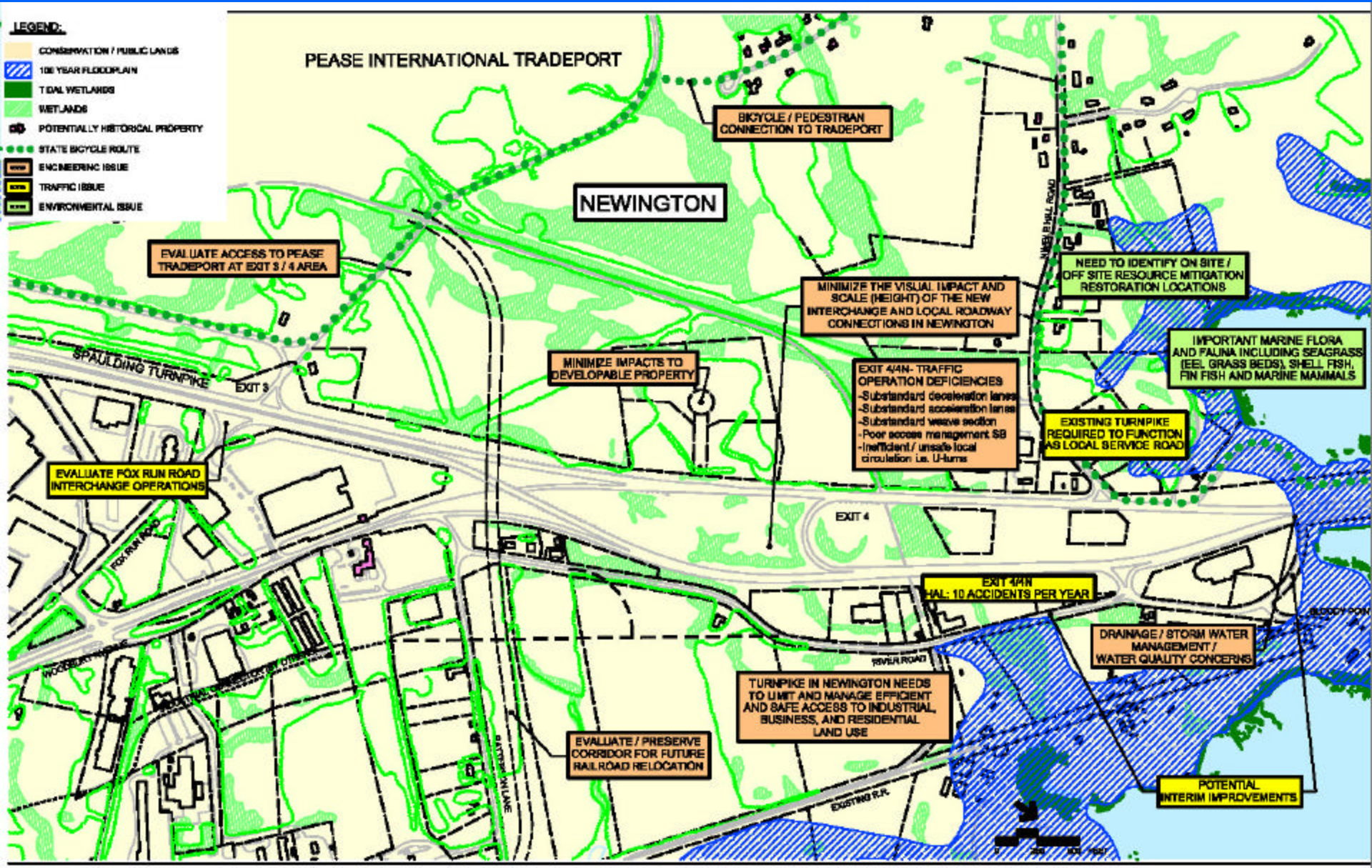
Issues/Opportunities


LEGEND:
CONSERVATION / PUBLIC LANDS
100 YEAR FLOODPLAIN
TIDAL WETLANDS
WETLANDS
POTENTIALLY HISTORICAL PROPERTY
STATE BICYCLE ROUTE
ENGINEERING ISSUE
TRAFFIC ISSUE
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE
PEASE INTERNATIONAL TRADEPORT
NEWINGTON
BICYCLE / PEDESTRIAN CONNECTION TO TRADEPORT
EVALUATE ACCESS TO PEASE TRADEPORT AT EXIT 3 / 4 AREA
SPAULDING TURNPIKE
EXIT 3
MINIMIZE THE VISUAL IMPACT AND SCALE (HEIGHT) OF THE NEW INTERCHANGE AND LOCAL ROADWAY CONNECTIONS IN NEWINGTON
NEED TO IDENTIFY ON SITE / OFF SITE RESOURCE MITIGATION RESTORATION LOCATIONS
MINIMIZE IMPACTS TO DEVELOPABLE PROPERTY
EXIT 4/4N- TRAFFIC OPERATION DEFICIENCIES
-Substandard deceleration lanes
-Substandard acceleration lanes
-Substandard weave section
-Poor access management SB
-Inefficient / unsafe local circulation i.e. U-turns
IMPORTANT MARINE FLORA AND FAUNA INCLUDING SEAGRASS (EEL GRASS BEDS), SHELL FISH, FIN FISH AND MARINE MAMMALS
EXISTING TURNPIKE REQUIRED TO FUNCTION AS LOCAL SERVICE ROAD
EVALUATE FOX RUN ROAD INTERCHANGE OPERATIONS
FOX RUN ROAD
EXIT 4
EXIT 4/4N
HAL: 10 ACCIDENTS PER YEAR
DRAINAGE / STORM WATER MANAGEMENT / WATER QUALITY CONCERNS
RIVER ROAD
TURNPIKE IN NEWINGTON NEEDS TO LIMIT AND MANAGE EFFICIENT AND SAFE ACCESS TO INDUSTRIAL, BUSINESS, AND RESIDENTIAL LAND USE
EVALUATE / PRESERVE CORRIDOR FOR FUTURE RAILROAD RELOCATION
EXISTING R.R.
POTENTIAL INTERIM IMPROVEMENTS

Issues/Opportunities

Project Purpose

- Improve Transportation Efficiency
- Reduce Safety Problems

Project Need

- Spaulding Turnpike
  - Major Limited Access Highway
  - Links Seacoast Region w/ I-95, Concord, Lakes Region, and White Mountains
  - National Highway System (NHS)
  - Principal Arterial
  - Major Commuter Route
  - Major Freight Corridor
  - Major Tourist Route

Project Need (con't)

- Spaulding Turnpike
  - Traffic Volumes
    - 30,000 (1980)
    - 70,000 (2001)
    - Projected 100,000 (2025)
  - Level of Service F
  - Geometric Deficiencies
    - Substandard Profile & Shoulders (Little Bay Bridges)
    - Substandard Merge, Diverge, and Weave Areas
  - Accident Data – Long Delays

Project Need (con't)

- Spaulding Turnpike
  - Bisects Residential/Recreational/Commercial Areas
  - Local Connectivity – motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists

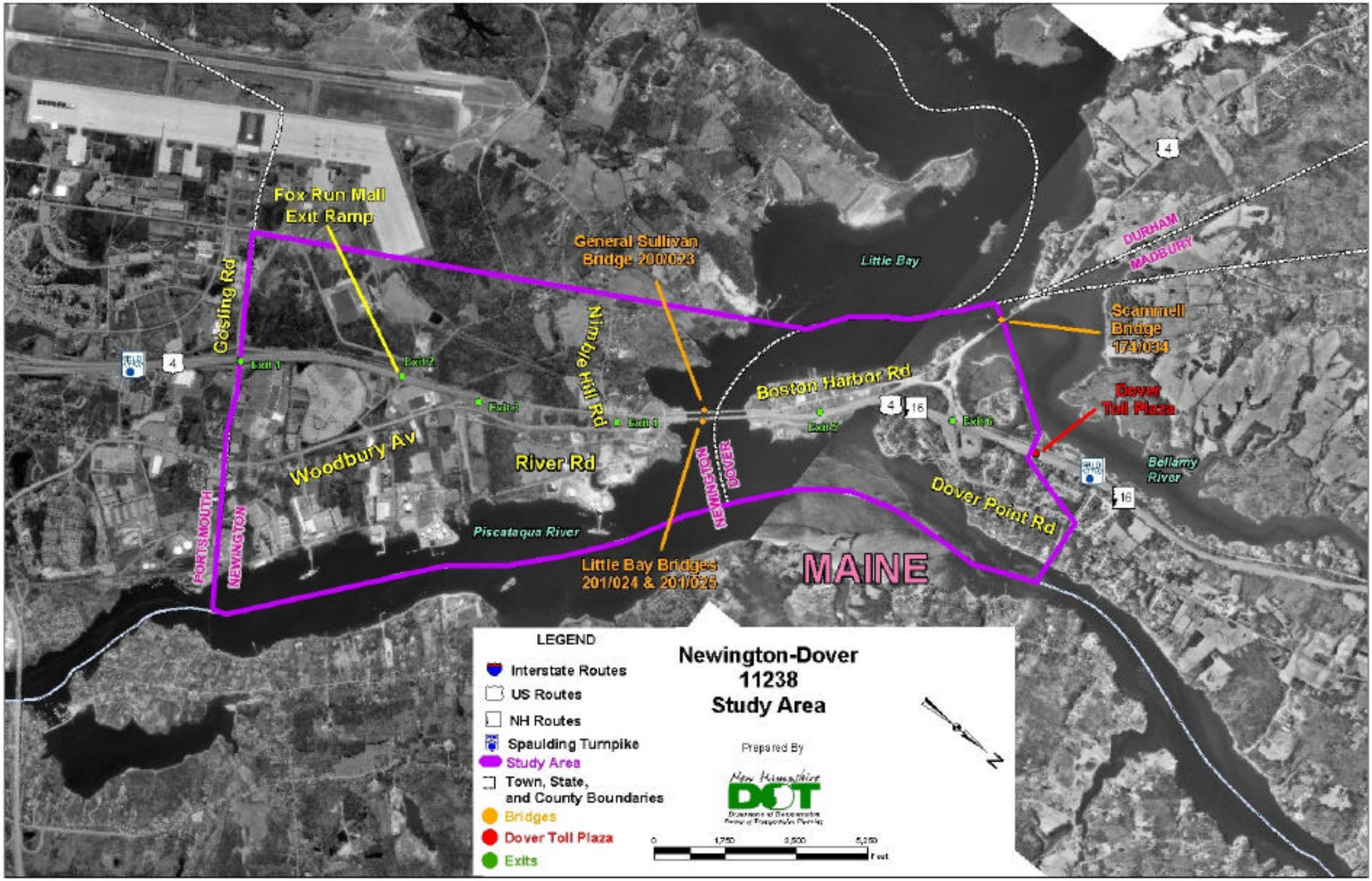
Project Need (con’t)

- Spaulding Turnpike
  - Seismic Performance Category B
  - Little Bay Bridges – major structures

Project Need (con't)

- Spaulding Turnpike
  - State Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Program
  - Top Long-Term Transportation Priority (Seacoast MPO)
  - Development & Traffic Growth ⬆
  - Traffic Operations & Safety ⬇
    - Resulting Increased Delays, Increased Accidents, Potential Loss of Commerce

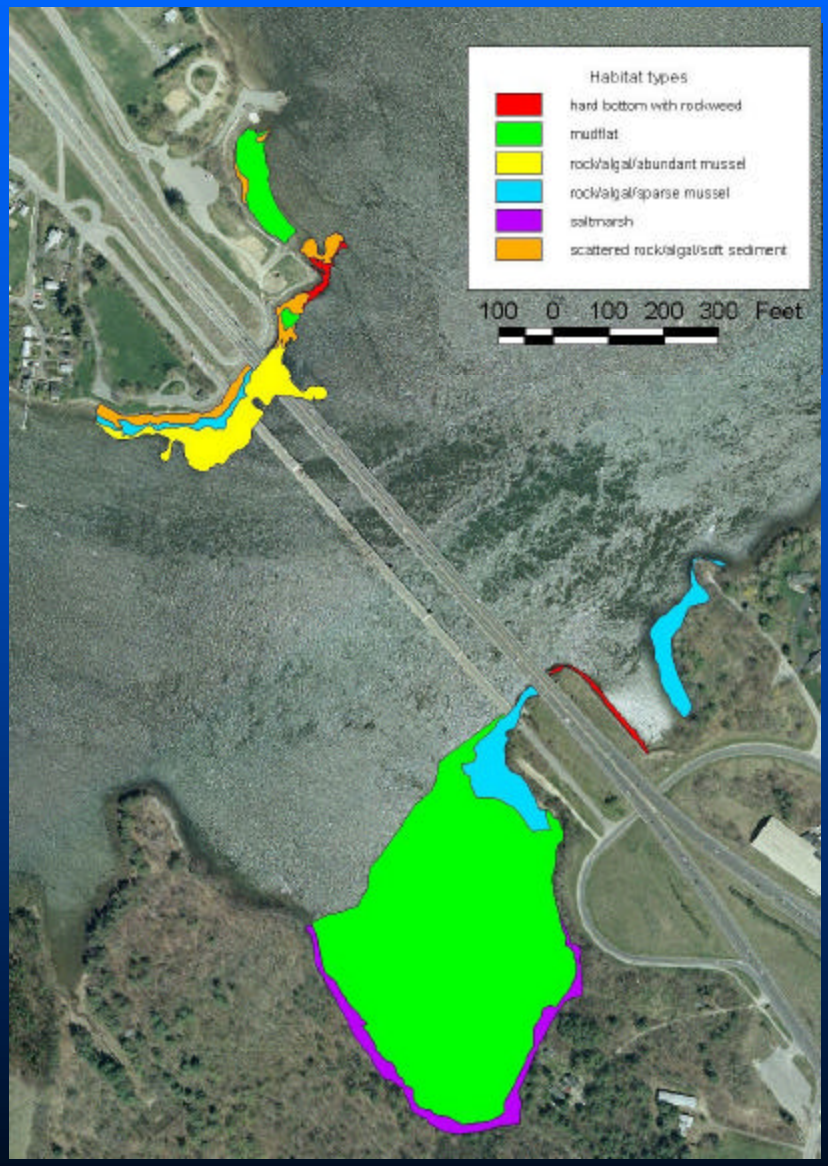
Project Study Area



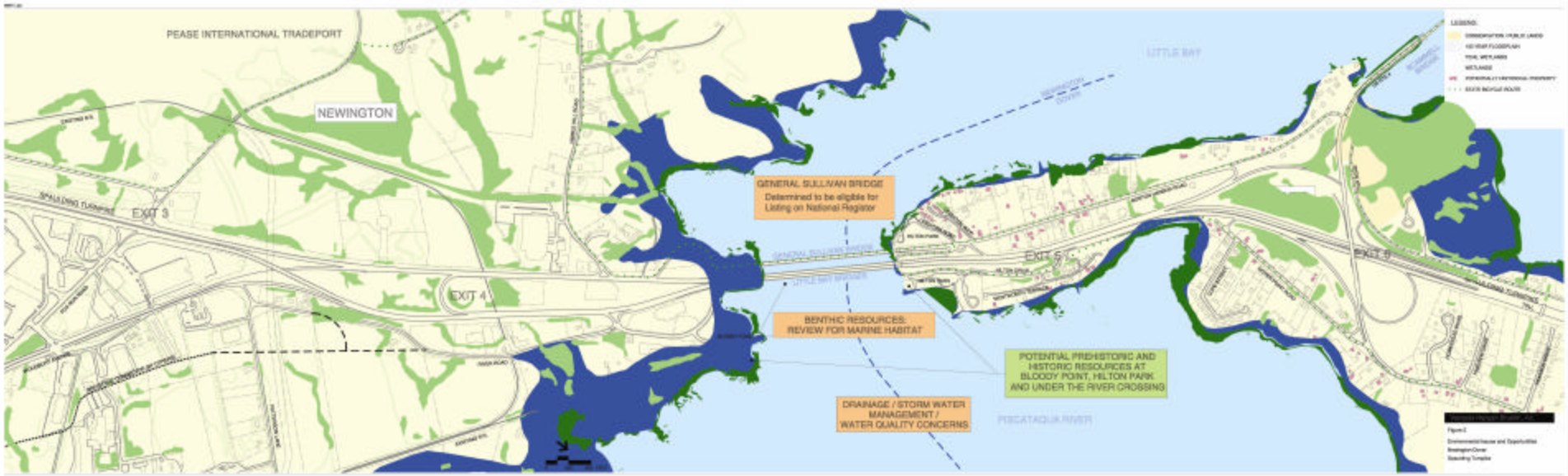
Sensitive Environmental Issues

Great Bay Estuary & Associated Natural Resources

- Marine Habitat
- Coastal & Freshwater Wetlands
- Wildlife Habitat
- Threatened & Endangered Species
- Water Quality
- Floodplains



Wetlands and Floodplains


PEASE INTERNATIONAL TRADEPORT
NEWINGTON
SPAULDING TURNPIKE
EXIT 3
EXIT 4
EXIT 5
EXIT 6
LITTLE BAY
GENERAL SULLIVAN BRIDGE
Determined to be eligible for Listing on National Register
BENTHIC RESOURCES: REVIEW FOR MARINE HABITAT
POTENTIAL PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC RESOURCES AT BLOODY POINT, HILTON PARK AND UNDER THE RIVER CROSSING
DRAINAGE / STORM WATER MANAGEMENT / WATER QUALITY CONCERNS
PISCATAQUA RIVER

Sensitive Environmental Issues

Other Environmental Resources

- Air Quality
- Noise
- Hazardous Materials
- Visual Character
- Farmlands

Sensitive Environmental Issues

Cultural and Social Resources

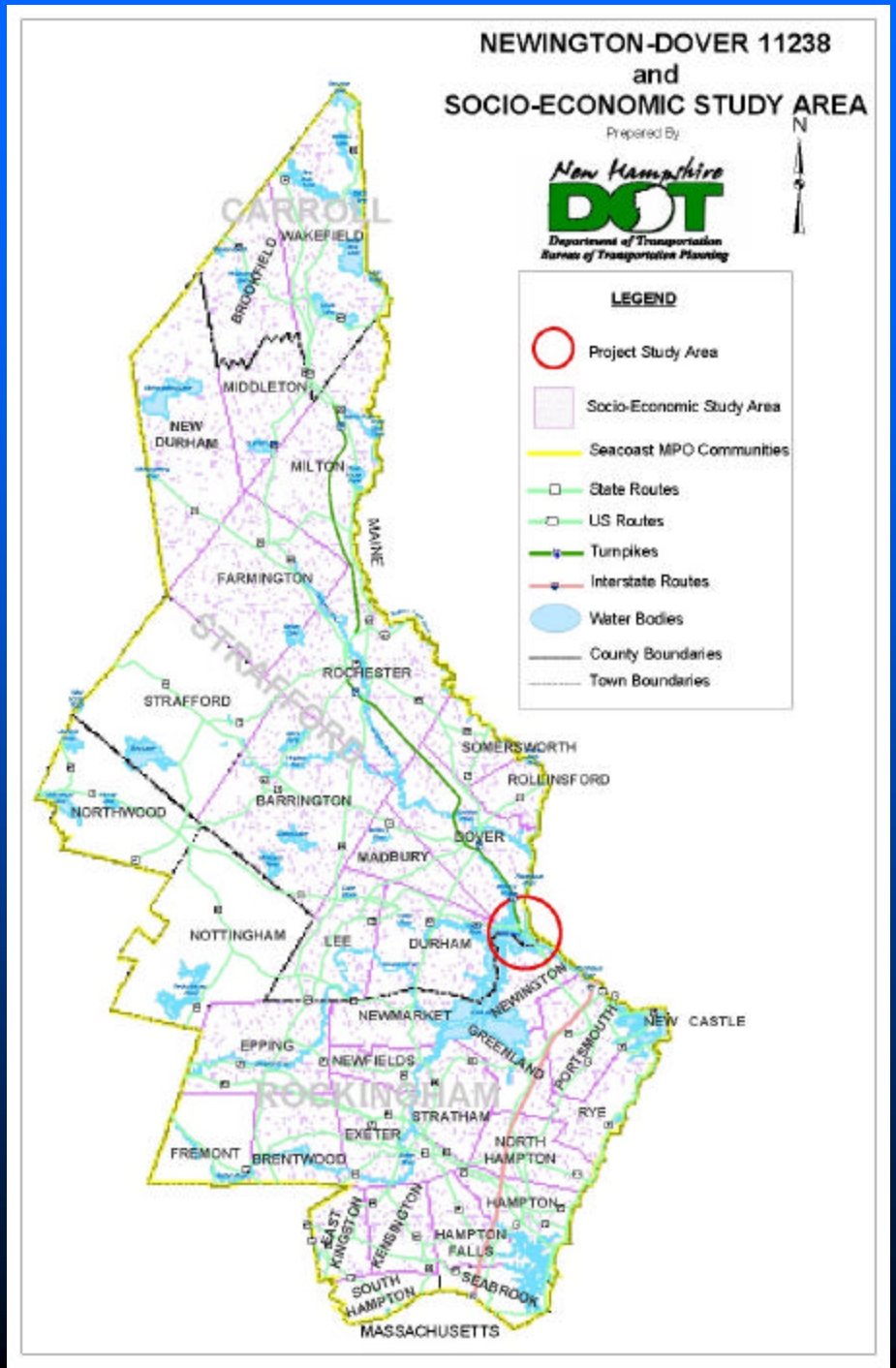
- Socio-economic Effects (RKG Associates)
- Historic Architecture (Preservation Company)
- Archeological Resources (Victoria Bunker Inc)
- Recreational Areas
- Navigation

Socio-economic effects

- Direct:

  e.g., Property takings

- Indirect & Cumulative:
  e.g., Changes in growth patterns (REMI Model)

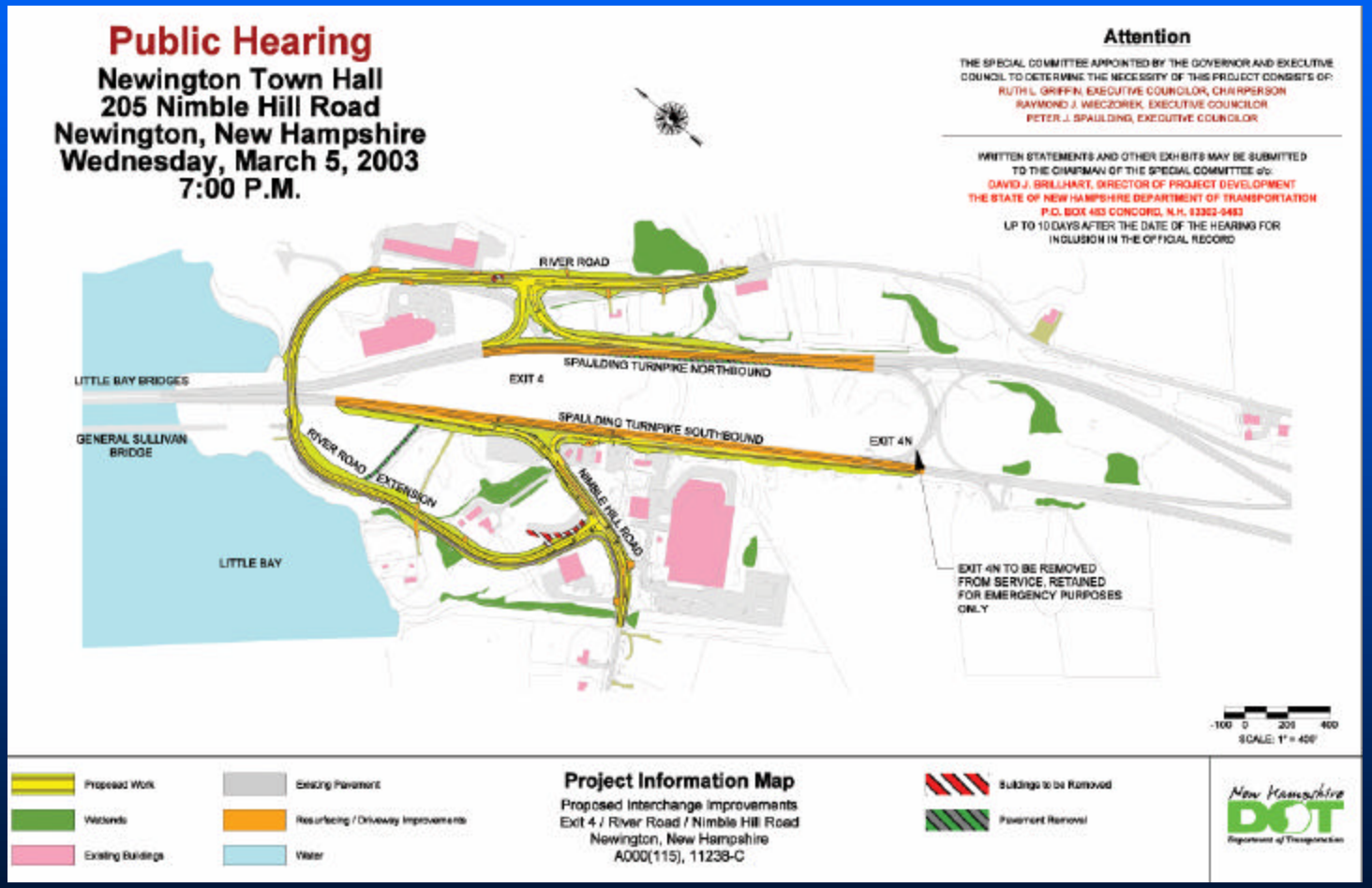


Hilton Park: Recreation & Historic Resources

Reasonable Range of Alternatives

- No Build
- Transportation System Management (TSM) Improvements
- Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Measures
- Upgrade Corridor
- Combination of Above

Interim Safety Plan (TSM)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Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Measures

- Bus Service
- Passenger Rail Service
- Park-and-Ride Facilities
- Ride Sharing Programs
- Telecommuting
- Parking Restrictions
- Work Hours Management
- High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes

Upgrade Corridor

- Widen/Rehabilitate Existing Little Bay Bridges to provide 3 or 4 lanes in each direction
- Rehabilitate Existing Little Bay Bridges and Construct New Bridge to provide 3 or 4 lanes in each direction
- Replace Existing Little Bay Bridges with New Bridge to provide 3 or 4 lanes in each direction

Upgrade Corridor Cont'd

- Rehabilitate General Sullivan Bridge for Local Traffic; or for Only Bicyclists and Pedestrians
- Replace General Sullivan Bridge for Local Traffic and Bicyclists and Pedestrians
- Remove General Sullivan Bridge

Upgrade Corridor Cont'd

- Reconstruct/Widen Mainline of the Turnpike to provide 3 or 4 lanes in each direction
- Reconstruct Interchanges

Reasonable Range of Alternatives

- No Build
- Transportation System Management (TSM) Improvements
- Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Measures
- Upgrade Corridor
- Combination of Above

Project Phases

- Preliminary Design & Environmental Evaluation
- Environment Impact Statement (EIS) Framework
- 5 Phases of EIS Process
  - Phase 1 - Project Scoping / Data Collection / Issue Identification
  - Phase 2 – Conceptual Alternative Development & Screening
  - Phase 3 – Preliminary Design / Impact Assesssment / Draft EIS
  - Phase 4 – Public Hearing
  - Phase 5 – Final EIS

Project Phases

- Phase 1 - Project Scoping / Data Collection / Issue Identification
  - Collect Data – Establish Base Mapping
  - Assess Existing Conditions
  - Identify the Affected Environment & Issues of Concern
  - Establish the Project Purpose & Need
  - Project Future Travel Demands
  - Identify a Range of Potential Alternatives
  - Develop Scoping Report

Project Phases

- Phase 2 – Conceptual Alternative Development & Screening
  - Refine & Evaluate Potential Alternatives
  - Screen Alternatives & Develop Constraints Matrix
  - Develop Reasonable Range of Alternatives
  - Develop Rationale Report

Project Phases

- Phase 3 – Preliminary Design / Impact Assesssment / Draft EIS
  - Refine and Further Develop Reasonable Alternatives
  - Assess Impacts
  - Identify Preferred Alternative
  - Identify Mitigation
  - Publish Draft EIS

Project Phases

- Phase 4 – Public Hearing
  - Submit Permit Applications
  - Joint Public Hearing – ACOE, FHWA, NHDOT , NHDES
  - Report of the Commissioner
  - Special Committee Report

Project Phases

- Phase 5 – Final EIS
  - Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative (LEDPA) Confirmed
  - Mitigation Package Approved
  - Final EIS Published
- Regulatory Agencies Permit Rec'd
- FHWA Record of Decision (ROD)
- ACOE Permit Decision

PROJECT SCHEDULE

- Phase 1: February 2003 - December 2003
- Phase 2: January 2004 - August 2004
- Phase 3: September 2004 - November 2005
- Phase 4: February 2006 Public Hearing
- Phase 5: March 2006 - December 2006
- FHWA Record of Decision: March 2007
- Final Design: March 2007 - October 2011
- Construction: October 2008 - June 2014

Public Participation

- Advisory Task Force
- Public Informational Meetings
- Resource Agency Meetings
- Newsletter
- www.newington-dover.com
- Public Hearing

Contact Information

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NH Department of Transportation
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Phone : (603) 271-3226

William O'Donnell, PE
Environmental Program Manager
Federal Highway Administration
279 Pleasant Street, Suite 204
Concord, NH 03301
Phone : (603) 228-3057 Ext. 145

THANK YOU
FOR
YOUR INTEREST

Open Discussion